

## **AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A sintered sliding member comprising a back metal and a ferrous sintered sliding body, the ferrous sintered sliding body being connected to the back metal,  
wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body comprises martensite phase having a solid  
soluble carbon concentration of 0.15 to 0.5wt% and contains carbide in a content of 5 to 50% by  
volume,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body includes a sliding surface,  
wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body is formed with at least one of recesses and  
closed pores at the sliding surface in an area ratio of 1 to 10%, and ~~The sintered sliding member~~  
according to claim 1,

wherein a composition of said ferrous sintered sliding body contains at least one carbide selected from the group consisting of Cr<sub>7</sub>C<sub>3</sub> carbide, M<sub>6</sub>C carbide and MC carbide, said at least one carbide being coarsened to have an average grain size of at least 40 $\mu$ m, dispersed and precipitated therein in a content of at least 3% by volume by adding Cr powder, Mo powder, W powder, V powder or ferrous alloy powder contained high alloying element.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A sintered sliding member comprising a back metal and a ferrous sintered sliding body, the ferrous sintered sliding body being connected to the back metal,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body comprises martensite phase having a solid soluble carbon concentration of 0.15 to 0.5wt% and contains carbide in a content of 5 to 50% by volume,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body includes a sliding surface,  
wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body is formed with at least one of recesses and  
closed pores at the sliding surface in an area ratio of 1 to 10%.~~The sintered sliding member~~  
according to claim 16,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body contains at least one element selected from the  
group consisting of Cr of at least 9wt%, Mo of at least 3.5wt%, Mo and W in a total amount of at  
least 4.5wt%, and V of at least 3wt% such that said martensite phase contains at least one carbide  
selected from the group consisting of Cr7C3 carbide, M6C carbide, and MC carbide dispersed  
therein,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body contains at least one element selected from the  
group consisting of Ni of 1 to 5wt%, Mn of 1 to 2wt%, Co of 2 to 12wt% and Al of 0.2 to  
1.5wt%, and

wherein said martensite phase contains retained austenite phase dispersed therein in a content of 5 to 40% by volume.

18-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A sintered sliding member comprising a back metal and a ferrous sintered sliding body, the ferrous sintered sliding body being connected to the back metal,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body comprises martensite phase having a solid soluble carbon concentration of 0.15 to 0.5wt% and contains carbide in a content of 5 to 50% by volume,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body includes a sliding surface,  
wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body is formed with at least one of recesses and  
closed pores at the sliding surface in an area ratio of 1 to 10%, The ferrous sintered sliding  
member according to claim 30,

wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body contains at least one element selected from the  
group consisting of Cr of at least 9wt%, Mo of at least 3.5wt%, Mo and W in a total amount of at  
least 4.5wt%, and V of at least 3wt% such that said martensite phase contains at least one carbide  
selected from the group consisting of Cr7C3 carbide, M6C carbide, and MC carbide dispersed  
therein,

wherein said sintered sliding member is a floating seal,  
wherein said ferrous sintered sliding body contains Cr7C3 carbide, M6C carbide, and MC  
carbide dispersed therein in a total content of 20 to 40% by volume and said back metal has a  
hardness of at least Hv170, and

wherein said martensite phase contains retained austenite dispersed therein in a content of 5 to 40% by volume.

35-43. (Cancelled)